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ALIVE?



MACKIE
BYRNE
GREEN

AND DOES
THE ANSWER
LIE WITH --
DOCTOR
DOOM?!



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WHAT...

...WAS...
...I...

WE'RE ALL DOOMED... AGAIN!

AT A DEMONSTRATION ON RADIATION, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY AN IRRADIATED SPIDER FROM WHICH HE GAINED THE ARACHNID'S INCREDIBLE ABILITIES. WHEN A BURGLAR KILLED HIS BELOVED UNCLE BEN, A GRIEF-STRIKEN PETER VOWED TO USE HIS GREAT POWERS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS FELLOW MAN, BECAUSE HE LEARNED AN INVALUABLE LESSON: WITH GREAT POWER MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

STAN LEE PRESENTS
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
IN:

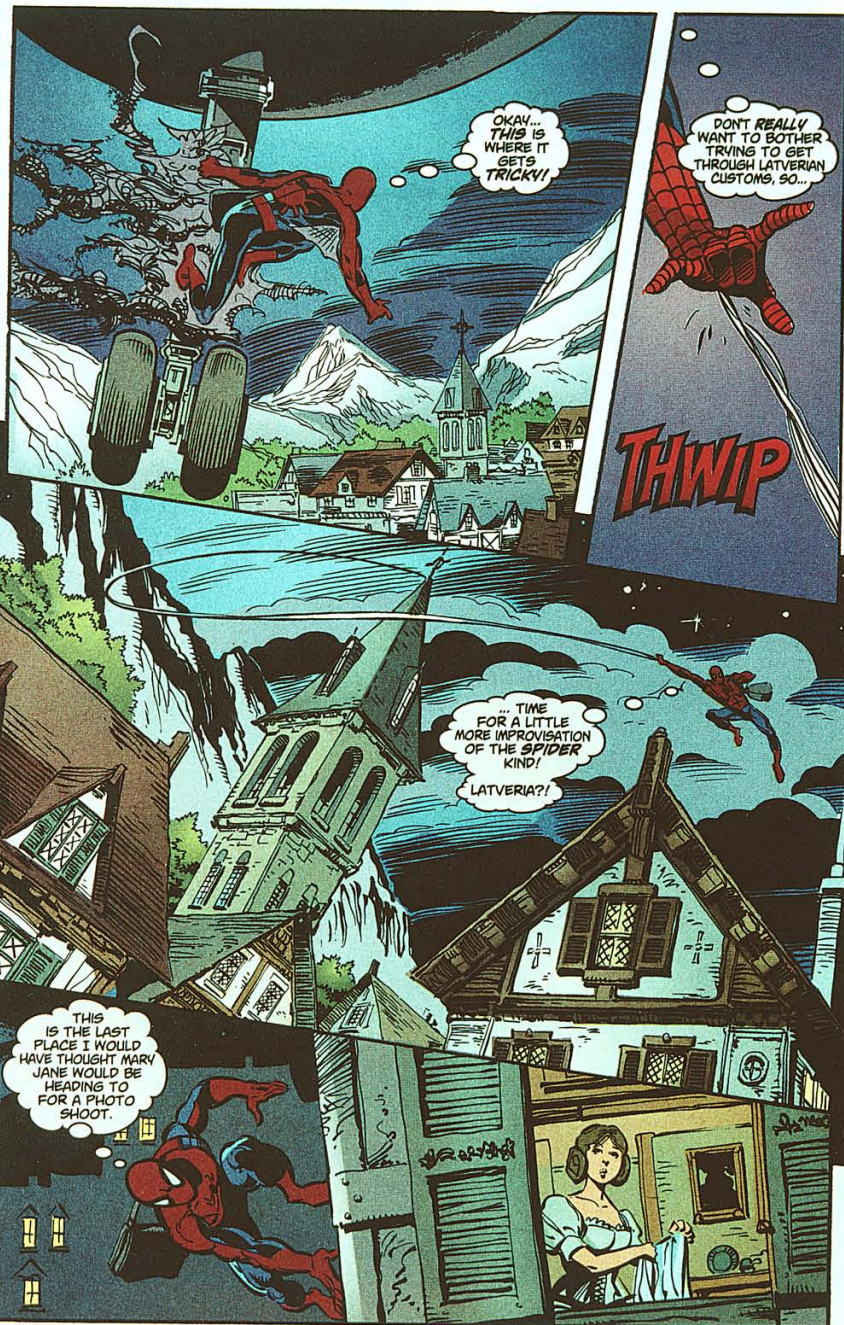
...THINKING?

IT'S COLD STOWING AWAY IN THE BELLY OF A JUMBO JET!

THE ONLY REASON I DIDN'T FREEZE TO DEATH IS THAT I WAS ABLE TO USE MY WEBBING TO CREATE A COCOON FOR MYSELF.

NEXT TIME I GO ONLINE, I'M SURE I COULD'VE FOUND A FLIGHT I COULD AFFORD!

HOWARD
MACKIE &
JOHN
BYRNE
Story & Art
DAN GREEN
Inks
JOE ROSAS
Colors
RS & COMICRAFT'S
TROY PETERI
Letters
RALPH MACCHIO
Editor
BOB HARRAS
Editor In Chief



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of superheroes,
the greatest power
is just
being yourself.

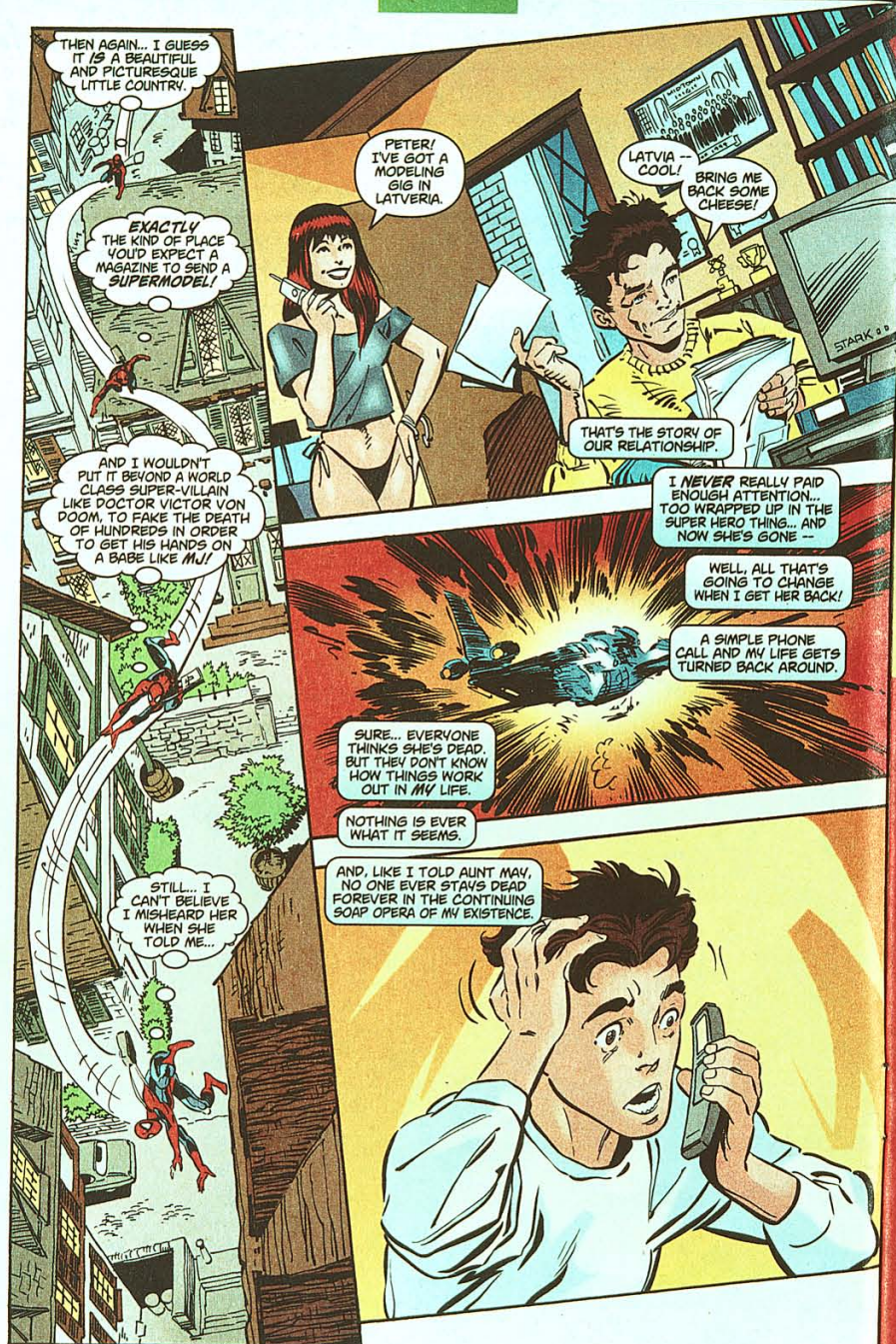
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World Television Premiere
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at 7:30pm/6:30c



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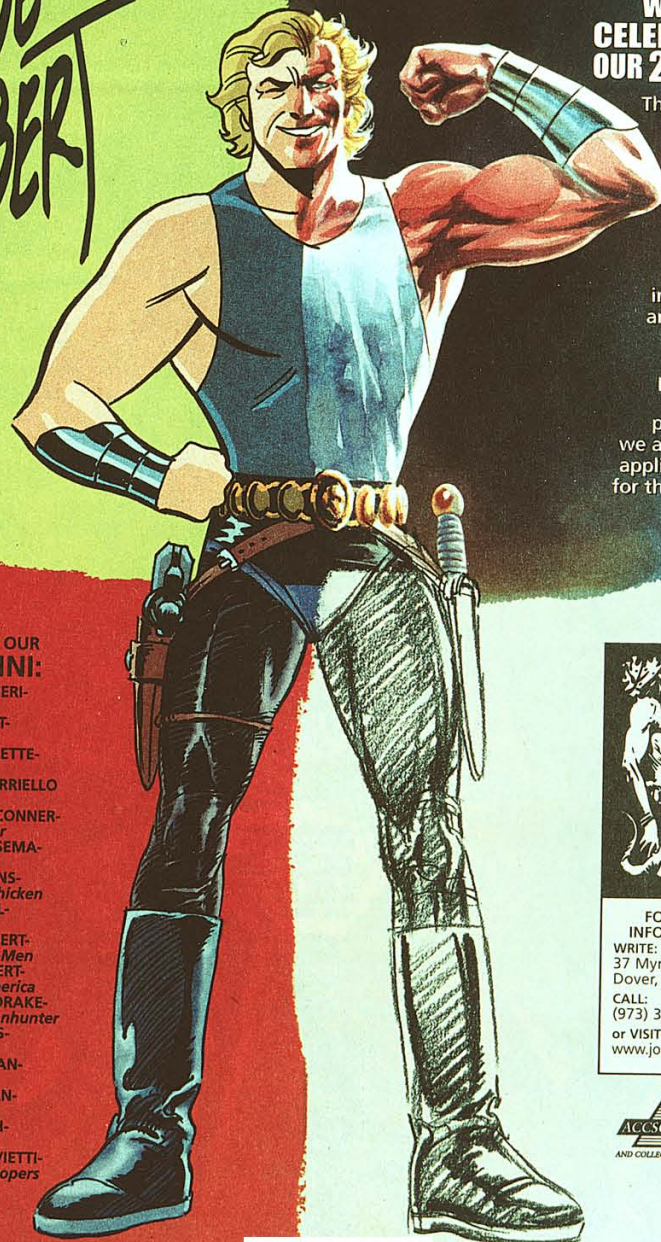
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HERE
I AM...
...DOOM'S
CASTLE!

THE
VOICE ON
THE TELEPHONE
SAID MJ IS
BEING HELD
INSIDE.

I'VE GOT
TO PLAY THIS
COOL.

DON'T WANT
TO ENDANGER
MJ ANY MORE
THAN I ALREADY
HAVE.

NO OVERT
SIGNS OF SECURITY
AND ALARMS,
BUT...

...IT'S
TIME TO
PLAY SUPER
STEALTHY
GUY!

USE ALL THOSE
PROPORTIONATE
STRENGTH AND
SPIDER-LIKE POWERS
TO JUST SNEAK ON
IN, GRAB MY WIFE
AND TAKE OFF.

I'M
REALLY NOT IN
THE MOOD FOR A
SUPER-VILLAIN
CONFRONTATION
TODAY.

OKAY.
HERE GOES
NOTH--

-- OOPS!

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AUCTIONS



OH, COME ON!
ALL I DID WAS
THINK ABOUT
BREAKING
IN.

I KNEW
DOOM WAS
SOME SORT
OF A GENIUS,
BUT...

...HE CAN'T
BE THAT
GOOD!

SENDING
THE WHOLE
ARMY, EH?

I'LL TAKE
ON THEM AND
ANYTHING ELSE
HE WANTS TO
SEND AGAINST
ME.

I'LL TAKE
ON DOOM
HIMSELF TO
GET MARY
JANE...

...BACK?

BULLPEN BULLETINS

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CAPTAIN AMERICA

Will Captain America prevail against the awesome evil of the Hate Monger? Can Nick Fury and Falcon tip the scales for the forces of good? Sharon Carter... captured in the Savage Land? By DAN JURGENS and ANDY KUBERT!

CAPTAIN MARVEL

Trading punches with the green goliath is bad enough, but when the man-eating Wendigo makes his appearance, Captain Marvel thinks about getting into a new line of work... that is, if he lives that long! By PETER DAVID and CHRIS CRISCI

INCREDIBLE HULK

Banner must undertake a journey into his own psyche in an attempt to reunite the various fractured shards of his personality! And in this case, that means facing different versions of the Hulk... including new incarnations you've never seen before! By PAUL JENKINS and RON GARNEY & MIKE MCKONE!

PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN

Spider-Man, under siege in a Styre-ruled Latveria, decides the only way to get real answers is to invade Castle Doom itself! Now it's an unending wall-crawler vs. the marshalled forces of Doom's stronghold! By HOWARD MACKIE and JOHN ROMITA JR.!

THOR

First Thor and Loki face off in a showdown that will determine the fate of the Odinson's alter ego, Jake Olson! Next Thanos and Mangog follow the Map of All-Ending to the planet Rigel, where they decimate the Colonizers and their Records! By DAN JURGENS and JERRY ORDWAY & LADRONN!

THUNDERBOLTS

The Thunderbolts' mission: Bring in the Beetle... even if that means taking on Justin Hammer and his horde of super-villain hirelings! But when the helmet comes off, will it be Mach-1 under the armor... or someone else? By FABIAN NICIEZA and MARK BAGLEY!

WOLVERINE

The world has changed once again! The forces of the High Lord have martyred Mr. Fantastic, the Invisible Woman, the Human Torch and the Thing. But the Fantastic Four are not gone! In the place of the original team, a new foursome has gathered: Spider-Man! The Hulk! Ghost Rider! And Wolverine! By ERIK LARSEN and ROGER CRUZ!

X-51

What happens when X-51's robotic systems, corrupted by Sentinel programs, compel him to respond to the X-Men with unbridled violence? How will Wolverine, Shadowcat, Psylocke, Angel, Jubilee and Nightcrawler deal with the massively enhanced Machine Man? By KARL BOLLERS and JOE BENNETT!

X-MAN

Having just faced Apocalypse, has X-Man created yet another reality for himself? Waking up in some kind of underground prison, Nate Grey, wearing a power-inhibiting suit, is virtually helpless... but when he befriends his fellow prisoners, he realizes that his worst suspicions may be right! By TERRY KAVANAGH and MIKE MILLER!

BULLPEN BITS #36

BY CHRIS GIARRUSSO



Design by Richard Starkings and COMICRAFT/NEW

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#27

#3

#12

#15

#00

#36

#148

#8

#61



Search for Tomorrow

What is the Tomorrow Stone? What the heck was Sekmeht Conoway talking about in GAMBIT #12, anyway? Find out in our Gambit CyberComic "The Hunt for the Tomorrow Stone," where the Cajun X-Man and the lovely Ms. Conoway find themselves in a race against time... and each other! This untold tale is only available at Marvel.com! Don't wait for Tomorrow -- see it now!

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This week's chat schedule!

01/20 @ 9:30pm ET
EARTH'S MIGHTIEST CHAT with writer, Kurt Busiek and editor, Tom Brevoort!

01/24 @ 8pm ET
SPIDER-MAN and THOR penciler -- John Romita, Jr.!

AOL Keyword: Marvel
All Chat schedules subject to change/cancellation

Refer to Keyword: Marvel > Astral Plane > Chat Schedule for latest schedule.

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes! Since our world-famous Soapbox column is based on the ancient, venerated ritual of awarding No-Prizes to those who are deemed worthy, what could be more appropriate than having our very first letter deal with the profound, though perplexing, issue of the time honored No-Prize itself? So here it is, in all its pristine glory, delivered by the U.S. Mail at the behest of David Sollars of Thompson, OH...

"When, Why and to Whom was the first No-Prize ever given out?"

Ah, David, David... would that my memory was all that good! I know not the date, so sought after by historians everywhere, when the first award was made. Nor can I recall the name of the lucky recipient. However, since No-Prizes were originally given to those who were sharp-eyed enough to find an error in a Marvel strip, I'm sure that our first No-Prize Laureate, whose identity is now, alas, lost to history, must have found some sort of misspelling or punctuation error -- even though it's probably next to impossible for you to imagine an error in any Marvel masterpiece!

Not only does Shahid Haque of Evansville, IN choose to toss a question at me, but he even ventures to tell me what kind of answer he doesn't want me to give.

"I've been wondering -- which character in the entire Marvel Universe do you yourself most identify with? And please don't say J. Jonah Jameson!"

Okay, Mr. Haque, I won't say him if you don't want me to -- but the fact is, the now unmentioned J. Jonah You-Know-Who actually is the one I would have mentioned. However, since I would never deign to disobey or offend a No-Prize Laureate, I'll settle for another choice. Next to JJJ, I guess I most relate to Willie Lumpkin, 'cause neither of us

has been seen around as much as we used to. (For those of you who don't know who Willie Lumpkin is, I suggest you ask some of the older Marvel readers. I'd tell you myself, but that would make it too easy!)

Wow! Talk about great memory! Jade Venus of Melbourne, Australia has it all... "In a past Soapbox, you said you couldn't reveal what Spider-Man's eyepieces are made of. Well, in Amazing Fantasy #15 you did describe his eyepieces as 'clever plastic lenses of the two-way mirror type.' You later said Mystro's helmet is based on the same principle. He can see out but no one can see in."

Hey, what's the problem, Jade. I originally said I couldn't reveal what Spider-Man's eyepieces were made of, right? Well, I couldn't -- 'cause I didn't remember! So thanks for reminding me. (How's that for the prize cop-out of the millennium!)

By now you should know our mailing address by heart, but for those of you whose memories are as bad as mine, here we go again: stanfanz@aol.com or Soapbox: Marvel, 317 Park Ave S, New York, NY 10016. So, till next ish, be sure to Think Marvel -- 'cause if you don't, Professor X will know it and you'd better watch out!

Excelsior!

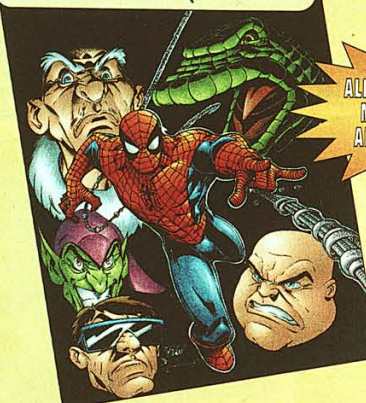
Stan

Stan Lee

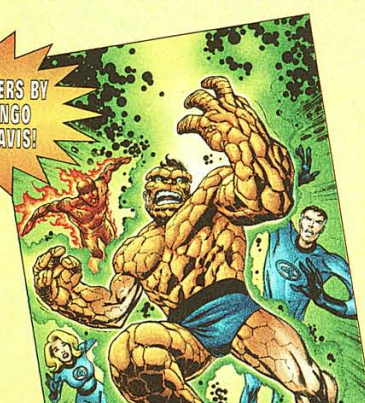


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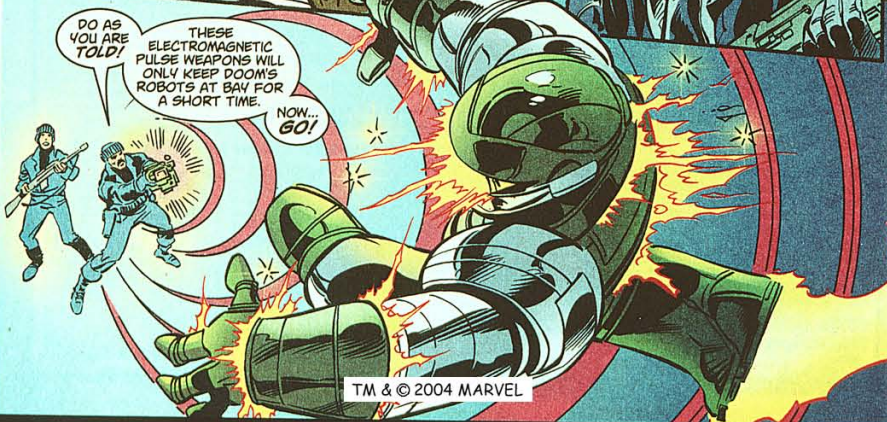
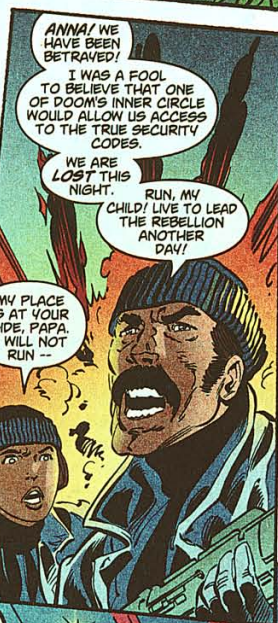
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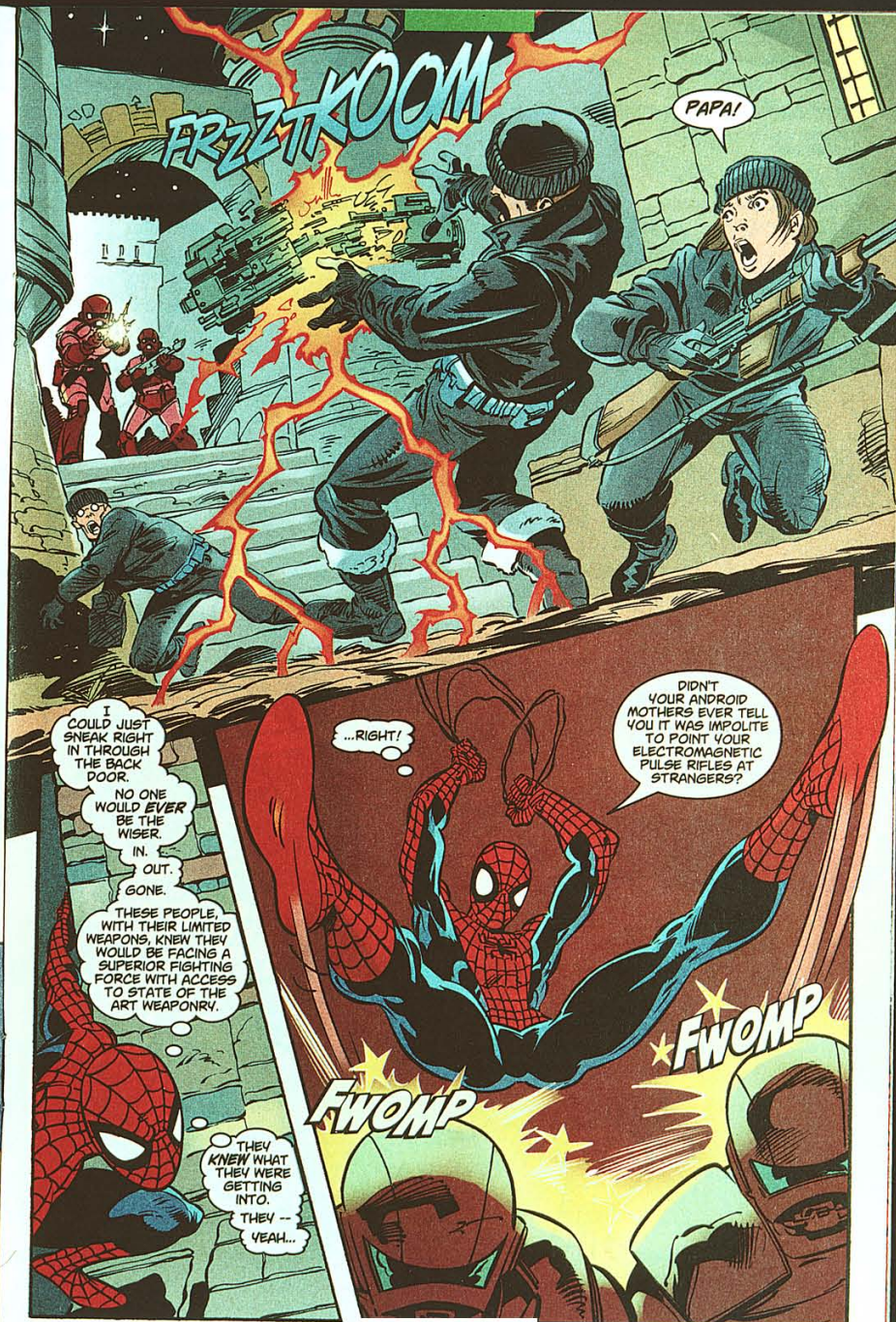
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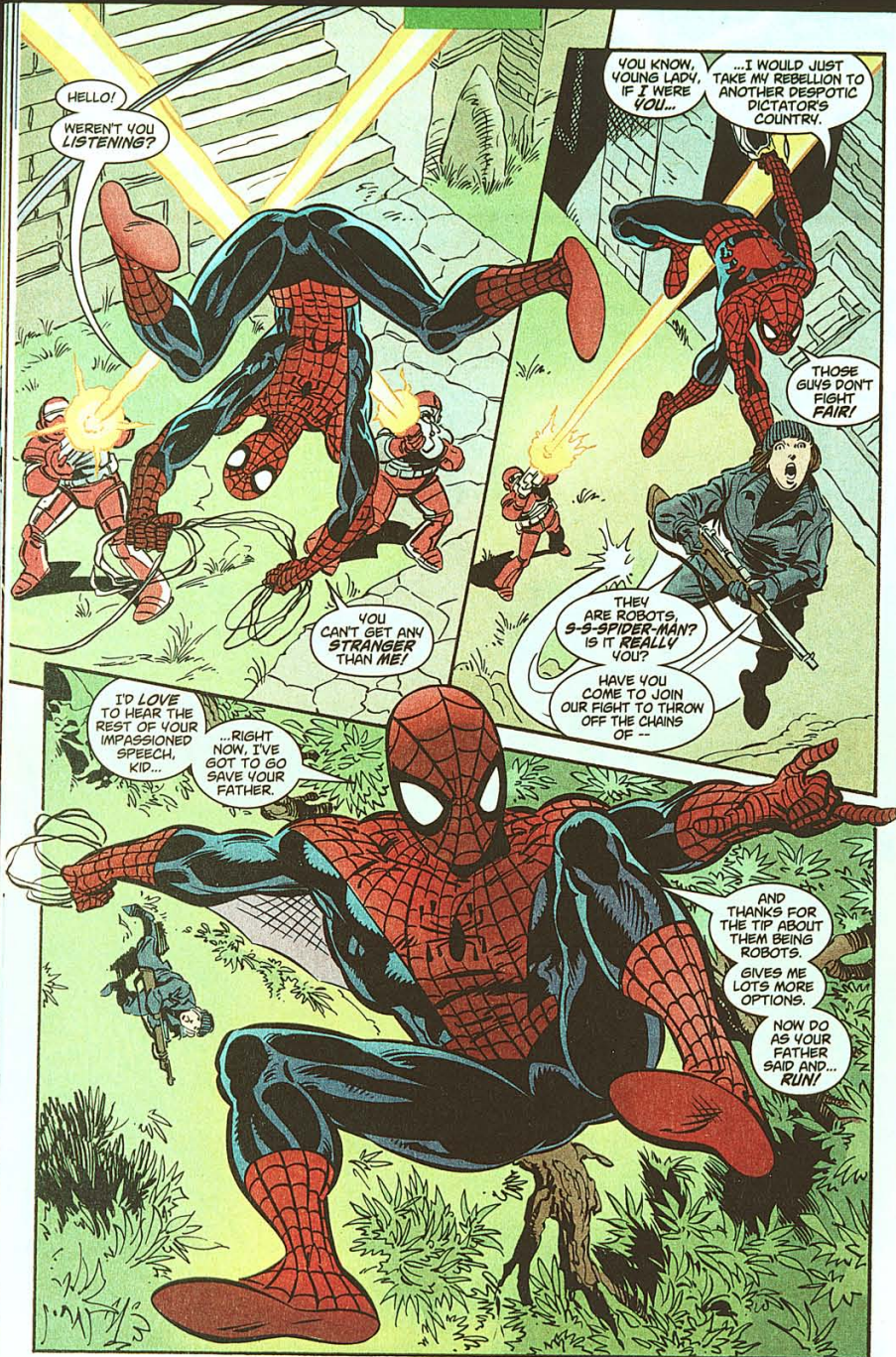
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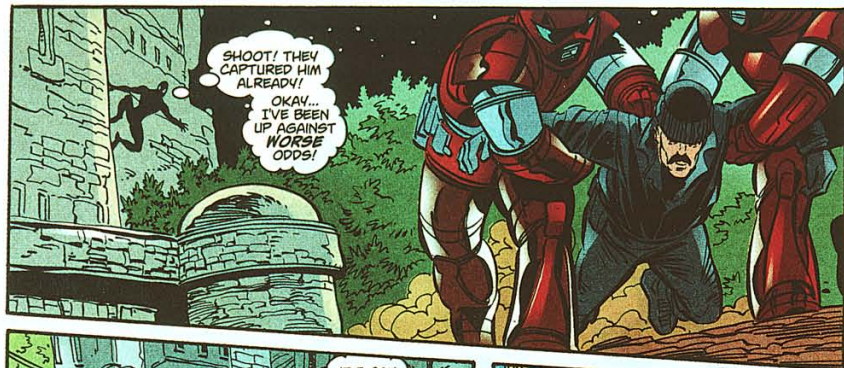
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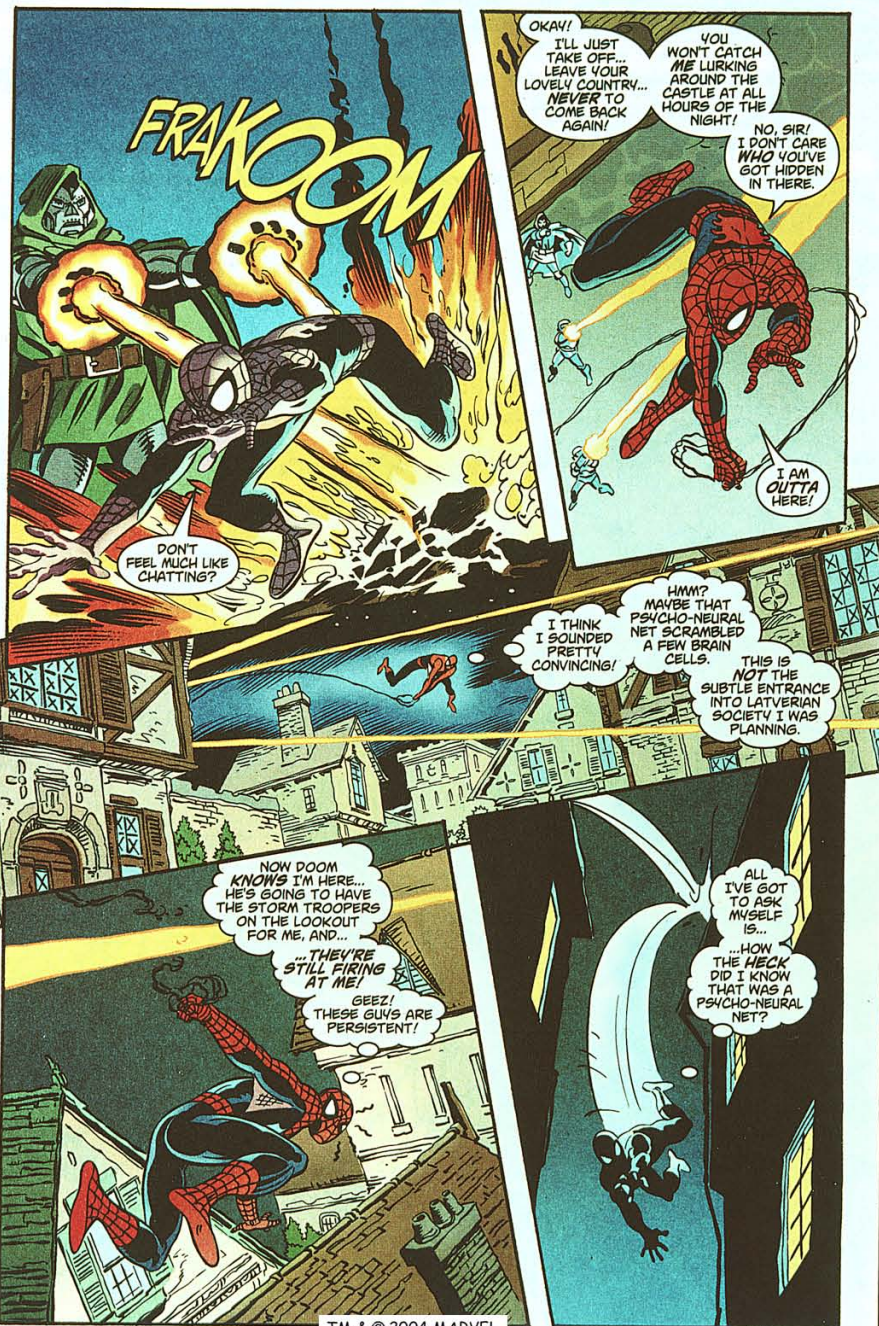
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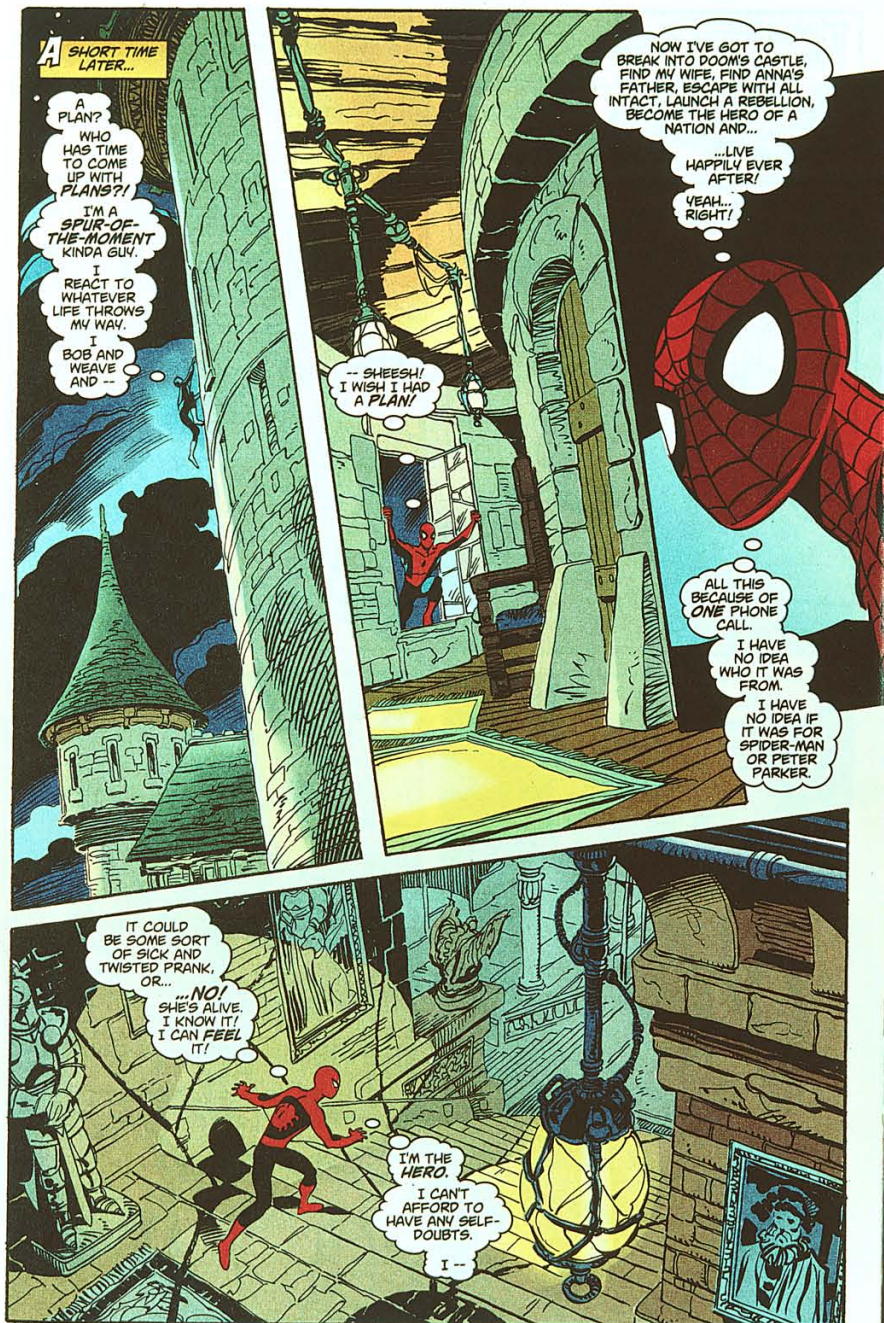
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- ☐ **GAM** Gambit
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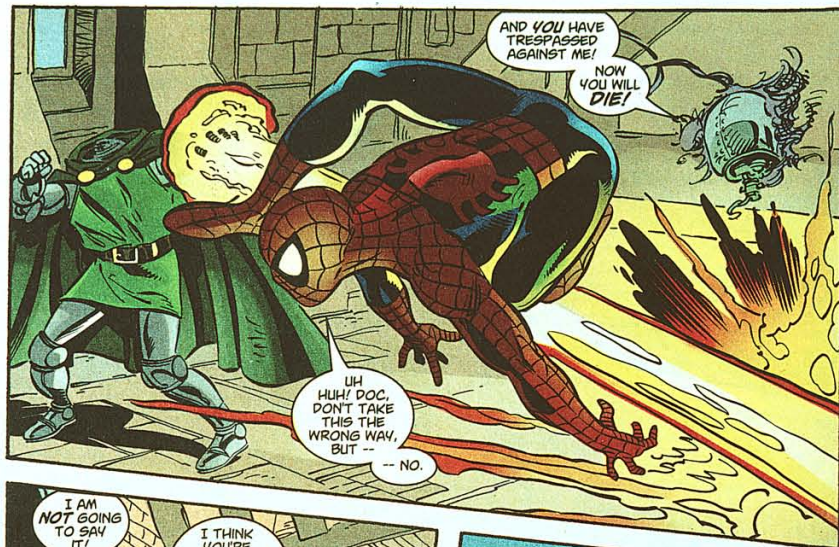
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TO BE CONTINUED
IN PETER PARKER #15...

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Dear Spider's Web:

I thought I would address a few issues. First, I've heard some bad-mouthing about the current run of the Spider-Man titles. Basically, they insinuate that nothing big is happening and that the issues have no "oomph," so to speak.

In response to that, I have to say that I like the simplicity of the current titles. There is a brilliance in that simplicity that is easy to overlook if you don't study it hard enough. Back in the days of the clone saga, you guys had the "epic every month" theme going strong and a lot of fans (myself included) responded with a negative backlash. Now you try to keep it simple and still there are complaints. I guess it just goes to show that you can't please all of the people all of the time. I personally like the fact that Spidey is facing new and exciting villains and that plots are being resolved within a few issues for a change and I think you guys should keep up the good work. I also appreciate your efforts to keep things fresh and that you're always thinking of ways to keep the storylines interesting and exciting.

The Blob's recent appearance in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #11 is a good example. You rarely see him in the Spidey titles and so he's fresh to these pages. Also, individual issues' plots continue along quietly and efficiently, not taking away from the continuity of the current subplots. Is that so wrong? I'd say that the only story line that I can do with or without is the whole "stalker" thing with Mary Jane. Until it is resolved, and unless it's revealed to be someone or something major, I just can't get excited about it. But I do have faith that you guys are taking this somewhere. You at Marvel have provided me with too many entertaining years of Spidey for me to lose faith in you now.

Tyrone Maxey
Windsor, ONT
CANADA

Thanks for writing, Tyrone. You're right, there has been a concerted effort on the part of this office to tell cleaner, more self-contained stories, rather than sprawling, endless sagas like the aforementioned clone event. Not that we won't trot out the multi-part story when the situation calls for it, but we have tried to rein ourselves in when possible. We're glad it's stuck a chord with you.

Dear Spider's Web:

The appearance of the Blob in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #11 was superb and added nothing to the story in my opinion, though the way Spidey defeated him was pretty cool and funny. It would have made for a better all-around story if you had continued to focus on Pete and MJ's divergent

lifestyles as you did during the first half of the issue. The middle pages could have offered even more insight into the Parkers' highly unconventional relationship and the story still could have been set up to end with Pete/Spidey rescuing Mary Jane on the last page. The Spidey/Blob confrontation did not hurt the story by any stretch of the imagination; it's just that it could have been better without of Frederick J. Dukes dropping by.

It is my contention that the "stalker" was part of MJ's security staff. How else could he have entered her dressing room and left that message on the mirror in such a short amount of time? Also, how would he know to plant those explosives along her "escape route"? In an earlier letter I guessed that the "stalker" was none other than Norman Osborn; now it seems that I was way off base. In truth, I don't have a clue as to his identity and thank you, Mr. Mackie, for making it such a tantalizing mystery.

Good luck, and Make Mine Spidey!

Terence Connors PMM
Rochelle Park, NJ

Consider yours made, Terence.

Sorry, but we'll have to agree to disagree with you about the inclusion of the Blob, though. As much as we'd like to have an issue centering completely around only Peter and MJ's relationship, super hero action is what everybody craves! Maybe we could have integrated the subplot into the main story better, but a Marvel mag without some semblance of a slugfest just wouldn't be proper!

Dear Web Crew:

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #11 was heavy! And not just because the Blob was there. Pete and MJ just don't seem to get breaks anymore, except bad ones. How weird is it to get mobbed by police when you're trying to get to your wife? Maybe Pete should join MJ on some of those photo shoots.

I'm guessing that Fred J. Dukes was kind of a "throwaway" villain this time, and there's no real long-term plot involving this guy. Neat way that Spidey subdued him, though. He should have a lot more gadgets at his disposal.

So, who is this nut that keeps calling MJ, anyway? I think that it is either the Chameleon or Jason Jonellio! I never liked that Jason.

Christopher Currie
Detroit, MI
Hypestyle@yahoo.com

Nor he you, Christopher. But seriously, the Blob "throwaway"? You try tossing around a heavyweight like Fred Dukes and then call him that. Sheesh! Next thing you know, you'll be referring to X-Men continually as "straightforward!"

Greetings Ralf and Matt.

Re: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #11. Where to start? Praise first. This issue wasn't as bad as some of the previous ones. I liked the Spidey action; the fact that he had to outthink the Blob and use his web cartridges. I also like that something actually happened in Peter's life for a change. I am glad the rift between Pete and MJ is going to be dealt with.

I do not like the fact that the Blob was robbing the bank truck for no reason. I understand that he was bored, but how undramatic is that? I also disliked the blur you guys dropped on the page where he pops up. I know you are trying to keep new readers interested (and I don't think the writing is going to do it all by itself), but to take all the wonder out of who this guy is and what he can do is akin to popping a child's balloon and eating his cotton candy!

I also think that John Byrne is stretching himself too thin and his Spidey art is going downhill fast. This issue looked totally rushed. I also "boo" the fact that the cops were using "safety" bullets. I know we live in an age where we have to shield our children from violence, but these lame-o safety bullets take any threat out of the gun; oh, that and real cops have real bullets.

I'm trying really hard to like Spidey again, guys, but you're making it really hard. I'll always stick with the ol' webhead, but I'd like to see more of the good and much, much less of the bad.

Ronnie Dingman
Louisville, KY

Well, thanks for your patience, Ronnie. As Tyrone says above, you can't please all of the people all of the time, and we're sorry that such a loyal reader as you is on the short end of this one. Hopefully our later efforts will please you more. Thanks for sticking by us, though. It is appreciated.

NEXT ISSUE

WITH PETER'S LIFE IN FINANCIAL RUIN, IT'S A GOOD THING HE STILL HAS HIS JOB AT TRICORP...UNLESS THE INDUSTRIAL SABOTEUR KNOWN AS THE GHOST PUTS THEM UNDER PLUS...DID JONAH REALLY PEEK UNDER SPIDEY'S MASK? AND IF HE DID, WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO WITH THE INFO FOR THE ANSWERS TO THESE AND OTHER QUESTIONS, TUNE IN TO THE NEXT EPISODE OF THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. BROUGHT TO YOU BY MACKIE, BYRNE AND GREEN. RALF, HOWEVER, BRINGS NOTHING BUT TEARS OF FRUSTRATION.

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